

# 5

Export Certification  
Manual

## Issuing Certificates

### *PPQ Form 579, Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport*

---

#### Contents

Introduction	page 5-4-1
Purpose	page 5-4-1
Shipment Must Have Officially Entered U.S. Commerce	page 5-4-2
Determining Eligibility for a PPQ 579	page 5-4-2
Commodities That Are Eligible for a PPQ 579	page 5-4-3
Commodities That Are NOT Eligible	page 5-4-3
Review Import Requirements	page 5-4-3
Verify Whether the Consignment was Safeguarded	page 5-4-4
Verification of Compliance with Entry Requirements	page 5-4-4
Additional Declarations Specific to PPQ 579	page 5-4-6
Completion	page 5-4-7
Distribution	page 5-4-16
Maintenance	page 5-4-17
Issuing Office	page 5-4-17
Export Certification Specialist Office	page 5-4-18
Example of PPQ Form 579, Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport	page 5-4-19

---

#### Introduction

PPQ Form 579, Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport, is an accountable inspection certificate used to certify foreign plants and unprocessed or unmanufactured plant products for re-export. See [Figure 5-4-1 on page 5-4-19](#) for an example of a blank PPQ Form 579.

Authorized Certification Officials (ACOs) are responsible for holding in strict confidence the information in these official documents, collecting user fees (if applicable), and maintaining an accountability system for tracking these documents. For details about these topics, see [Accountability](#) on page 5-1-2, [Confidentiality](#) on page 5-1-5, or [User Fees](#) on page 6-15-1.

---

#### Purpose

The purpose of PPQ 579 is to certify to the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of the importing country that the foreign origin plants or unprocessed or unmanufactured plant products meet their phytosanitary requirements.

ACOs certify that, based on an original foreign phytosanitary certificate and/or additional inspections or laboratory tests that the foreign commodity:

- ◆ is considered to conform to the current phytosanitary regulations of the importing country
- ◆ Has been safeguarded against the risk of infestation or infection while in the United States.

If the commodity has been safeguarded since entering the US an official inspection is not mandatory if the consignment has a phytosanitary certificate from the country of origin. If safeguarding of the commodity **cannot** be verified then ACOs **must** perform a phytosanitary inspection.

In order to ensure that foreign origin commodities meet the importing country's requirements it is important that the import requirements be available to APHIS-PPQ. The requirements can be through published plant health legislation and/or by official communication from the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of the importing country.

APHIS-PPQ, generally, does not provide the import requirements for commodities from third countries in EXCERPT, therefore, exporters should be encouraged to provide an import permit (IP). If a commodity is certified without knowledge of the import requirements exporters must be cautioned that their consignment may not meet the importing countries requirements and could be refused entry.



If the import requirements are available and it **cannot** be verified that the requirements have been met the commodity cannot be certified.

---

## Shipment Must Have Officially Entered U.S. Commerce

Only commodities that have entered US commerce are eligible for certification. Foreign commodities transiting the US are not eligible for certification.

---

## Determining Eligibility for a PPQ 579

This section discusses which commodities are eligible for certification with a PPQ 579. Refer to [\*\*Determine Eligibility for Certification\*\*](#) on [\*\*page 4-2-1\*\*](#) for a more detailed discussion on the eligibility of commodities for certification.

---

## Commodities That Are Eligible for a PPQ 579

The following commodities are eligible for a PPQ Form 579:

- ◆ Foreign origin plants and unprocessed or unmanufactured plant products which are offered for re-export.
- ◆ Foreign origin plants and unprocessed or unmanufactured plant products which are offered for movement between the US and American Samoa, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Marshall Islands (islands affiliated with the United States), Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands (St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. John). This use is authorized because States **do not** have re-export certificates.
- ◆ Blended commodities: Blended commodities are US and foreign origin commodities that have been mixed together. If domestic and foreign commodities have been blended to the extent that their identity has been lost a PPQ Form 579, **not** a PPQ Form 577, must be used to certify the consignment. In addition, an inspection **must** be conducted. For blended commodities, both the US and the foreign country of origin must be listed on the PPQ 579 as the “Place of Origin.”

### EXAMPLE

Wheat grain from the United States mixed with wheat grain from Canada is now a blended commodity. The blending can be in any proportion.

---

## Commodities That Are NOT Eligible

PPQ Form 579 **cannot** be issued for the following:

- ◆ Processed products of foreign origin (see **PPQ Form 578, Export Certificate, Processed Plant Products** on page 5-3-1)
- ◆ Commodities transiting the United States under U.S. Customs’ bond. Transiting shipments should be accompanied by an original, foreign phytosanitary certificate if certification is required by the destination country.

---

## Review Import Requirements

Follow the preferred method for finding import requirements in the export summary of the importing country using EXCERPT. Refer to **EXCERPT** on page 3-2-1.

If the import requirements are unknown (requirements are not in EXCERPT and exporter does not have official communication from the NPPO) but the commodity is eligible for a PPQ 579 **do not** refuse certification. Caution the exporter that the consignment may be refused entry because all phytosanitary requirements may not be met.

Use one of the following additional declarations as appropriate:

- ◆ “The shipment met the entry requirements of the United States”
- ◆ “United States **does not** require phytosanitary certification for the entry of the plants or plant products.”

If the import requirements are known and the requirements can not be met or verified **do not** certify the commodity.



If the phytosanitary requirements of a foreign origin commodity are unknown caution the exporter that the consignment may be refused entry because all phytosanitary requirements may not be met.

---

## Verify Whether the Consignment was Safeguarded

ACOs must determine if the commodity was:

- ◆ Segregated and its identity was maintained
- ◆ Kept under suitable safeguards to prevent the risk of infestation or infection while in the U.S.

Make the determination by using your knowledge of and experience with the exporting company, the supporting documents, and the plants or plant products being exported.

If the commodity was not segregated and safeguarded the commodity must be inspected in order to issue a PPQ 579.

---

## Verification of Compliance with Entry Requirements

If the import requirements are known, either through EXCERPT or official communication from the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO), ACOs must determine if the commodity meets those requirements. Unlike domestic origin commodities the phytosanitary conditions of a foreign origin consignment can not always be determined once the commodity is in the US.

ACOs need to determine if the import requirements can be met by:

- ◆ Additional declarations on an original or certified true copy of a foreign phytosanitary certificate (PC) from the originating country
- ◆ Conducting supplemental inspections
- ◆ Monitoring or supervising of treatments
- ◆ Initiating laboratory testings

If an original or certified true copy of a foreign PC is present it can be used to confirm that specific phytosanitary requirements were met in the originating country.

ACOs are prohibited from providing certification relative to conditions which must be verified in the originating country and are not attested to on a foreign PC. PCs issued by the NPPO of the originating country **must** address these types of issues.

The following are examples of the types of requirements that must be attested to on a foreign phytosanitary certificate because they can not be confirmed once the consignment is in the US:

- ◆ Pest conditions in the originating country
- ◆ Area freedom or production area freedom
- ◆ Growing season and field inspections
- ◆ Virus indexing, etc.
- ◆ Active growth field inspection

ACOs must record the results of any supplemental phytosanitary inspection, testing, and/or treatments conducted in the US on PPQ Form 579. Such supplemental inspection, testing, or treatment carried out for the purpose of providing phytosanitary certification for a foreign origin product **must** be tailored to the known import requirements of the intended receiving country.

Only supplemental laboratory testing, visual inspections and treatments may be conducted in the U.S. Supplemental phytosanitary inspections of foreign origin products **must** be officially conducted by ACOs. Laboratory testing, indexing, etc., **must** be accomplished by Federal, State, or accredited university laboratories approved by USDA-APHIS-PPQ.

**EXAMPLE**

The import requirements for the third country which can be verified by an ACO: The import requirements for a commodity originating from India requires the following additional declaration (AD): “The shipment is free of Khapra beetle.”

In this case, if a PC issued by the NPPO of India is not available or is available but does not contain the AD, ACOs can conduct an inspection and, if appropriate include the required AD on the PPQ 579. In this case, the AD can be attested to because a visual inspection is sufficient to determine that the commodity is free of Khapra beetle. Whether or not the commodity was inspected in India for this pest is irrelevant because the pest status can be confirmed by an ACO.

This would hold true for other types of pests as long as confirmation of the pest status can be confirmed by the ACO. ACOs must determine whether an inspection, laboratory test, etc. can be conducted in the U.S. If the requirements for the originating country include laboratory analysis which is not on the foreign PC you can include the AD for laboratory requirements if the analysis was conducted by an authorized laboratory in the U.S.

**EXAMPLE**

The import requirements for the third country can **not** be verified by an ACO: The import requirements for a commodity originating from India requires the following additional declaration (AD): "The shipment originates from an area free of citrus canker."

In this case, if a PC issued by the NPPO of India is not available or is available but does not contain the AD, ACOs can **not** verify that the commodity originated from an area free of citrus canker. The required AD cannot be provided in this case and therefore, the commodity cannot be certified.

---

## Additional Declarations Specific to PPQ 579

In addition the various additional declarations (ADs) that an importing country may require and those pertaining to the presence or absence of an import permit there are two ADs which can only be used with PPQ 579s.

If the import requirements are unknown ACOs may use one of the following ADs:

- ◆ "The commodity met the entry requirements of the United States."
- ◆ "The United States does **not** require phytosanitary certification as a condition of entry for this commodity."



If the phytosanitary requirements of a foreign origin commodity are unknown caution the exporter that the consignment may be refused entry because all phytosanitary requirements may not be met.


**TABLE 5-4-1: Additional Declarations Specific to a PPQ Form 579**

The import requirements are:	And the required condition:	Then:
Known	<b>Can</b> be based on a foreign PC	ENTER <b>no</b> additional declaration
	<b>Can not</b> be based on foreign PC or phytosanitary actions taken in the US	Refuse to issue a PPQ 579
	<b>Can</b> be based on phytosanitary actions taken in the US	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. RECORD the results of supplemental phytosanitary inspection, testing, or treatment on the reverse side of the Issuing Office Copy (See <a href="#">Table 4-5-9 on page 4-5-15</a> under <i>Steps to Certify, Follow Inspection Guidelines, Step 9: Record Inspection Results</i>)</li> <li>2. ENTER AD(s) as required by the importing country based on actions taken in U.S.</li> </ol>
Unknown	N/A	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ENTER <b>only</b> the following ADs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ “The commodity met the entry requirements of the United States.”</li> <li>◆ “The United States does <b>not</b> require phytosanitary certification as a condition of entry for this commodity.” (If appropriate)</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

## Completion

See [Table 5-4-2](#) for specific instructions, techniques, and examples about how to complete the different areas of PPQ Form 579. For general guidelines, see [General Guidelines for Completing Certificates](#) on page 5-1-6.

**TABLE 5-4-2: Instructions to Complete PPQ Form 579, Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport**


If the Block is:	Then follow these instructions to complete PPQ Form 579:
TO: THE PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATION(S) OF	<p>ENTER the approved name of the foreign country indicated in the export summary</p> <div>  <p><b>Important</b></p> </div> <p>The country name entered in this block <b>must</b> be the same as the country identified in <i>Block 8, Declared Address of the Consignee</i>.</p>

**TABLE 5-4-2: Instructions to Complete PPQ Form 579, Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport (continued)**



If the Block is:	Then follow these instructions to complete PPQ Form 579:						
PLACE OF ISSUE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ ENTER the complete name of the city and State of the issuing office; <b>do not</b> abbreviate</li> <li>◆ Each PPQ 579 can be prepared <b>only</b> by the issuing office accountable for that certificate</li> <li>◆ VERIFY that the correct issuing office is listed for prepaid PPQ 579s (this block must already be completed when presented for issuance.)</li> </ul>						
CERTIFICATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ ENTER the name of the foreign country where the commodity originated from; more than one country can be listed for each commodity</li> <li>◆ ENTER the number of the foreign phytosanitary certificate, if available, and check whether the certificate is an original or certified true copy. USE the decision table below to determine what to enter in this space</li> </ul> <table border="1"> <tr> <th>If the exporter:</th><th>Then:</th></tr> <tr> <td>Has the original or a true copy of the foreign certificate</td><td>           1. ENTER the number of the foreign certificate            2. CHECK whether the certificate is the original or a certified true copy         </td></tr> <tr> <td><b>Does not</b> have a foreign certificate (<b>only</b> for non propagative plant products to <b>other than</b> Canada)</td><td>ENTER "none" in the space to the right of the words "covered by Phytosanitary Certificate _____"</td></tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ CHECK whether the commodity is packed in the original containers or was repacked in new containers</li> <li>◆ CHECK whether the conformance with the current phytosanitary requirements of the importing foreign country are based on the original (or certified true copy) of the foreign phytosanitary certificate and/or based on additional (supplemental) inspection</li> </ul>	If the exporter:	Then:	Has the original or a true copy of the foreign certificate	1. ENTER the number of the foreign certificate 2. CHECK whether the certificate is the original or a certified true copy	<b>Does not</b> have a foreign certificate ( <b>only</b> for non propagative plant products to <b>other than</b> Canada)	ENTER "none" in the space to the right of the words "covered by Phytosanitary Certificate _____"
If the exporter:	Then:						
Has the original or a true copy of the foreign certificate	1. ENTER the number of the foreign certificate 2. CHECK whether the certificate is the original or a certified true copy						
<b>Does not</b> have a foreign certificate ( <b>only</b> for non propagative plant products to <b>other than</b> Canada)	ENTER "none" in the space to the right of the words "covered by Phytosanitary Certificate _____"						




**TABLE 5-4-2: Instructions to Complete PPQ Form 579, Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport (continued)**

If the Block is:	Then follow these instructions to complete PPQ Form 579:								
<b>DISINFESTATION AND/OR DISINFECTION TREATMENT</b>									
 <p><b>Important</b></p>	<p>Complete this section <b>only</b> if an acceptable treatment was conducted, which includes label information for treated seeds.</p> <p>Complete all blocks in this section.</p> <p>If <b>no</b> acceptable treatment was conducted, then LINE OUT the unused space and continue on to the DESCRIPTION OF CONSIGNMENT. The following example shows lining out the treatment section by drawing two diagonal lines from left to right, recognizing that as information technology advances there are other acceptable methods of lining out, such as using horizontal lines or symbols</p>								
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">DISINFESTATION AND/OR DISINFECTION TREATMENT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">1. DATE</td><td style="width: 50%;">2. TREATMENT</td></tr> <tr> <td>3. CHEMICAL (active ingredient)</td><td>4. DURATION AND TEMPERATURE</td></tr> <tr> <td>5. CONCENTRATION</td><td>6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</td></tr> </tbody> </table>		DISINFESTATION AND/OR DISINFECTION TREATMENT		1. DATE	2. TREATMENT	3. CHEMICAL (active ingredient)	4. DURATION AND TEMPERATURE	5. CONCENTRATION	6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
DISINFESTATION AND/OR DISINFECTION TREATMENT									
1. DATE	2. TREATMENT								
3. CHEMICAL (active ingredient)	4. DURATION AND TEMPERATURE								
5. CONCENTRATION	6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION								
1. DATES	<p>◆ ENTER the actual date of the treatment.</p> <p>◆ ENTER date in correct order (month, day, year); <b>never</b> use European format</p> <p>◆ SPELL OUT the month (January 1, 2004); <b>never</b> use numbers for the month and <b>never</b> abbreviate the month</p>								
2. TREATMENT	ENTER the full description of the treatment, e.g., fumigation, cold treatment, dip, spray ( <b>do not</b> use abbreviations or partial terms such as T101)								
3. CHEMICAL (active ingredient)	ENTER the name of the active ingredient								
4. DURATION AND TEMPERATURE	ENTER the duration of the treatment and temperature (use of internationally recognized scientific abbreviations such as C for Celsius and F for Fahrenheit is acceptable)								
5. CONCENTRATION	ENTER the concentration of chemicals  Use of internationally recognized scientific abbreviations, e.g., 32 g/m <sup>3</sup> , 2 lb./1000 ft <sup>3</sup> , 100 mm Hg is acceptable.								
6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	ENTER information that further identifies the treatment (such as dip, slurry, dusted, sprayed)								
<b>DESCRIPTION OF CONSIGNMENT</b>									



**TABLE 5-4-2: Instructions to Complete PPQ Form 579, Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport (continued)**

If the Block is:	Then follow these instructions to complete PPQ Form 579:
<p>7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE EXPORTER</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ ENTER the complete name and address of the exporter (street or P.O. Box, city, State)</li> <li>◆ SPELL OUT names of cities and State (preferred)</li> <li>◆ INCLUDE phone and FAX numbers (optional)</li> </ul> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p><b>Important</b></p> <p>Exporter's address <b>must</b> be in the United States or a U.S. territory or commonwealth, which includes American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands.</p> <p><b>Never</b> enter more than one exporter's name and/or address.</p> <p><b>Do not</b> use statements such as "In-care-of" (c/o), "Attention to", "Agent for", or "Notify".</p> </div> </div>
<p>8. DECLARED NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE CONSIGNEE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ ENTER the complete name and address of the consignee (person or company taking delivery of the commodity); at a minimum, include a name, city, and country</li> <li>◆ SPELL OUT names of cities and countries (preferred)</li> <li>◆ INCLUDE phone and FAX numbers (optional)</li> </ul> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p><b>Important</b></p> <p><b>Never</b> enter more than one consignee's name and address.</p> <p><b>Do not</b> use statements such as "In-care-of" (c/o), "Attention to", "Agent for", or "Notify".</p> <p>Consignee's address <b>must</b> be in the country listed in the block "TO: THE PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATION(S) OF."</p> </div> </div>



**TABLE 5-4-2: Instructions to Complete PPQ Form 579, Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport (continued)**

If the Block is:	Then follow these instructions to complete PPQ Form 579:												
9. NAME OF PRODUCE AND QUANTITY DECLARED	<div>  <p><b>Important</b></p> </div> <p>This is a critical block; <b>never</b> correct information unless directed otherwise in the export summary.</p> <p>◆ ENTER the common name of the commodity for precise identification; see the following table for additional instructions</p> <table> <tr> <th>If the produce is:</th><th>Then:</th></tr> <tr> <td>Beans for consumption</td><td>Enter fresh or dried beans</td></tr> <tr> <td>Seeds for animal feed</td><td>Enter the specific grain (such as oats or corn)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Seeds for planting</td><td>Enter seeds</td></tr> <tr> <td>Seeds for human consumption</td><td>Enter grain</td></tr> <tr> <td>Propagative articles <b>other than</b> seeds</td><td> <p>List the number of each different propagative article followed by its name; see the example below</p> <p><b>EXAMPLE</b></p> <div>Enter 600 anemone bulbs for 3 cartons each containing 200 anemone bulbs. Enter the weight for bulk shipments to better describe the articles.</div> </td></tr> </table> <p>◆ SPELL OUT abbreviations</p> <p><b>EXAMPLE</b></p> <div>The abbreviation “lbs” is spelled out as pounds.</div> <p>◆ <b>DO NOT LIST</b> or refer to any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Grades</li> <li>❖ Intended uses</li> <li>❖ Other commercial terms</li> <li>❖ Sizes</li> <li>❖ Trade names</li> </ul> <p>◆ If there is <b>not</b> enough space to list all entries ENTER “See attachment” and create an attachment sheet unless directed otherwise in the export summary (see <a href="#">Attachment Sheets and Continuation Sheets for Export Certificates</a> on <a href="#">page 5-1-7</a> for how to create an attachment sheet and enter an additional declaration)</p> <p>◆ LINE OUT unused space, recognizing that as information technology advances there are other acceptable methods of lining out, such as using horizontal lines or symbols. White space must be sufficiently lined out so that information cannot be added to the certificate.</p>	If the produce is:	Then:	Beans for consumption	Enter fresh or dried beans	Seeds for animal feed	Enter the specific grain (such as oats or corn)	Seeds for planting	Enter seeds	Seeds for human consumption	Enter grain	Propagative articles <b>other than</b> seeds	<p>List the number of each different propagative article followed by its name; see the example below</p> <p><b>EXAMPLE</b></p> <div>Enter 600 anemone bulbs for 3 cartons each containing 200 anemone bulbs. Enter the weight for bulk shipments to better describe the articles.</div>
If the produce is:	Then:												
Beans for consumption	Enter fresh or dried beans												
Seeds for animal feed	Enter the specific grain (such as oats or corn)												
Seeds for planting	Enter seeds												
Seeds for human consumption	Enter grain												
Propagative articles <b>other than</b> seeds	<p>List the number of each different propagative article followed by its name; see the example below</p> <p><b>EXAMPLE</b></p> <div>Enter 600 anemone bulbs for 3 cartons each containing 200 anemone bulbs. Enter the weight for bulk shipments to better describe the articles.</div>												

**TABLE 5-4-2: Instructions to Complete PPQ Form 579, Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport (continued)**

If the Block is:	Then follow these instructions to complete PPQ Form 579:
10. BOTANICAL NAME OF PLANTS	<div data-bbox="695 394 802 520">   <b>Important</b> </div> <div data-bbox="841 390 1427 447" style="background-color: #e0f2f1; padding: 5px;"> <p>This is a critical block; <b>never</b> correct information unless directed otherwise in the export summary.</p> </div> <div data-bbox="841 478 1427 562" style="background-color: #e0f2f1; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>NEVER</b> IDENTIFY a commodity to a level below the species classification (e.g., variety, cultivar), unless listed and required as such in an export summary.</p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ ENTER the scientific name, including genus and specific epithet (species classification)</li> <li>◆ Scientific names are <b>mandatory</b> for certifying propagative material and are preferred or required for all other products (e.g., New Zealand requires the scientific name for all certified products)</li> <li>◆ Exporters are responsible for providing the scientific name</li> <li>◆ ACOs verify the scientific name to the best of their ability</li> <li>◆ If there is <b>not</b> enough space to list all entries ENTER “See attachment” and create an attachment sheet unless directed otherwise in the export summary (see <a href="#">Attachment Sheets and Continuation Sheets for Export Certificates</a> on <b>page 5-1-7</b> for how to create an attachment sheet and enter an additional declaration)</li> </ul>
11. NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PACKAGES	<div data-bbox="695 1052 802 1178">   <b>Important</b> </div> <div data-bbox="841 1047 1427 1104" style="background-color: #e0f2f1; padding: 5px;"> <p>This is a critical block; <b>never</b> correct information unless directed otherwise in the export summary.</p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ ENTER the number and types of shipping containers</li> </ul> <div data-bbox="695 1234 1412 1333" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p><b>EXAMPLE</b></p> <p>50 wooden crates 150 cardboard cartons 500 burlap bags</p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ For bulk shipments, ENTER “In Bulk”</li> <li>◆ If there is <b>not</b> enough space to list all entries ENTER “See attachment” and create an attachment sheet unless directed otherwise in the export summary (see <a href="#">Attachment Sheets and Continuation Sheets for Export Certificates</a> on <b>page 5-1-7</b> for how to create an attachment sheet and enter an additional declaration)</li> </ul>


**TABLE 5-4-2: Instructions to Complete PPQ Form 579, Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport (continued)**

If the Block is:	Then follow these instructions to complete PPQ Form 579:
12. DISTINGUISHING MARKS	<div>  <p><b>Important</b></p> </div> <p>This is a critical block; <b>never</b> correct information unless directed otherwise in the export summary.</p> <p><b>Never</b> enter “As Addressed” and “As Marked.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ ENTER the markings exactly as they appear on the containers, cartons, bags, bales, boxes, products, truck licenses, or railway cars. A Letter of Credit (LC) number may be included when the packaging is clearly marked with the LC number.</li> <li>◆ If entered by the exporter or established after inspection, visually or otherwise, verify information entered in Block 12 using a supporting document such as the bill of lading</li> <li>◆ If there are <b>no</b> distinguishing marks, ENTER “NONE”</li> <li>◆ If there is <b>not</b> enough space to list all entries ENTER “See attachment.” See <a href="#">Attachment Sheets and Continuation Sheets for Export Certificates</a> on <b>page 5-1-7</b> for how to create an attachment sheet and enter an additional declaration)</li> </ul>
13. PLACE OF ORIGIN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ ENTER the name of the country of origin; do not abbreviate</li> <li>◆ For blended commodities list all countries of origin, including the US if appropriate</li> <li>◆ If multiple commodities from multiple origins distinguish which commodity is from which country</li> <li>◆ If there is <b>not</b> enough space to list all entries ENTER “See attachment” and create an attachment sheet unless directed otherwise in the export summary (see <a href="#">Attachment Sheets and Continuation Sheets for Export Certificates</a> on <b>page 5-1-7</b> for how to create an attachment sheet and enter an additional declaration)</li> </ul> <div>  <p><b>Important</b></p> </div> <p>ACOs can require whatever document is necessary to verify origin.</p> <p><b>Never</b> leave blank. If further refinements are <b>not</b> required by the importing country’s phytosanitary regulations, then WRITE “United States of America” or “U.S.A.”, if appropriate</p>
14. DECLARED MEANS OF CONVEYANCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ ENTER the name of the airline, rail line, truck line or vessel</li> <li>◆ ADD “or substitute” after a vessel’s name (acceptable)</li> <li>◆ If the specific name of means of conveyance is unknown ENTER as appropriate, “airfreight”, “ocean vessel”, “railroad”, or “truck line”</li> <li>◆ If mail shipments ENTER “air mail”, “surface mail”, “express mail”, or the carrier’s name</li> </ul>



**TABLE 5-4-2: Instructions to Complete PPQ Form 579, Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport (continued)**

<b>If the Block is:</b>	<b>Then follow these instructions to complete PPQ Form 579:</b>
15.DECLARED POINT OF ENTRY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ ENTER the point of entry declared by the exporter. This is the first point of entry in the destination country.</li><li>◆ CHECK the export summary to see if the declared point of entry is authorized; if the point of entry is <b>not</b> authorized WARN the exporter that the shipment may be delayed or refused entry</li><li>◆ ENTER “unknown” if a specific point of entry is <b>not</b> declared by the exporter or if statements such as Greek port(s) or unknown Turkish port(s) are declared</li><li>◆ SPELL OUT names of cities (preferred)</li><li>◆ ENTER multiple points of entry (acceptable)</li></ul>

**TABLE 5-4-2: Instructions to Complete PPQ Form 579, Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport (continued)**

If the Block is:	Then follow these instructions to complete PPQ Form 579:
<p>ADDITIONAL DECLARATION (AD)</p> <p>(See also <a href="#">Official Verification and Additional Declaration</a> on <a href="#">page 2-1-17</a>)</p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p><b>Important</b></p> <p>This is a critical block; <b>never</b> correct information unless directed otherwise in the export summary.</p> <p><b>Never</b> record official verifications on certificates.</p> </div> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ RECORD <b>only</b> those ADs that are required by the importing country in the export summary, on official communication from the NPPO (e.g. import permit), or by the ECM</li> <li>◆ USE English <b>only, except</b> for Latin binomial names of plants, plant products, plant pests or plant diseases</li> <li>◆ Do not record ADs already on the original foreign certificate</li> <li>◆ KEEP ADs to a minimum</li> <li>◆ If there is more than one AD, PLACE each AD within quotation marks to allow officials in the receiving country to distinguish between them</li> <li>◆ If there is <b>not</b> enough space to list all entries ENTER "See attachment" and create an attachment sheet. See <a href="#">Attachment Sheets and Continuation Sheets for Export Certificates</a> on <a href="#">page 5-1-7</a> for how to create an attachment sheet and enter an additional declaration)</li> <li>◆ LINE OUT unused space. See examples below for handwritten certificates. Can also use horizontal lines or symbols if using an electronic method to fill out the certificate.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Example 1</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">ADDITIONAL DECLARATION</p> <p>"The cotton in this shipment originated from areas free from the pink bollworm, <i>Pectinophora gossypiella</i>," "The cotton bales in this shipment were compressed at a minimum of 28 pounds per cubic foot,"</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: x-small; margin-top: 10px;"> <span>16. DATE ISSUED</span> <span>17. NAME OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER (Type or Print)</span> <span>18. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER</span> </div> </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Example 2</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">ADDITIONAL DECLARATION</p> <div style="height: 100px; border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin-top: 10px;"></div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: x-small; margin-top: 10px;"> <span>16. DATE ISSUED</span> <span>17. NAME OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER (Type or Print)</span> <span>18. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER</span> </div> </div>

**TABLE 5-4-2: Instructions to Complete PPQ Form 579, Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport (continued)**

If the Block is:	Then follow these instructions to complete PPQ Form 579:
16. DATE ISSUED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ ENTER the date the certificate is signed by an ACO (in contrast to the date of inspection recorded in the HEADING)</li> <li>◆ ENTER date in correct order (month, day, year); <b>never</b> use European format</li> <li>◆ SPELL OUT the month (January 1, 2004); <b>never</b> use numbers for the month; <b>never</b> abbreviate the year</li> </ul>
17. NAME OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER ( <i>Type or Print</i> )	<p>TYPE or PRINT the full name of the ACO who will sign the certificate</p> <div>  <p><b>Important</b></p> <p><b>DO NOT</b> ADD titles.</p> </div>
18. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ SIGN your name; <b>only</b> ACOs can authenticate certificates; stamped signatures are <b>not</b> permitted</li> <li>◆ <b>Only</b> one original signature is authorized</li> </ul> <div>  <p><b>Important</b></p> <p><b>DO NOT</b> authenticate multiple copies of a certificate. If a number of originals are needed, then have the exporter make copies and suggest the copies be notarized by a Notary Public as true copies of the original.</p> </div>

## Distribution

Use [Table 5-4-3 on page 5-4-17](#) to distribute copies of PPQ Form 579.



**TABLE 5-4-3: Instructions to Distribute PPQ Form 579, Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport**

If the copy is:	Then:
Part 1—Shipper's Original (white w/blue microprint background)	1. ATTACH the original or certified true copy of the foreign phytosanitary certificate if available
Part 2—Shippers' Copy (white)	2. ATTACH PPQ 576 if appropriate
	3. GIVE copies to the exporter, shipper, or broker
Part 3—Record Copy (white)	1. ATTACH any pertinent information for that specific shipment <sup>1</sup>
	2. SEND the record copy to your supervisor, Export Certification Specialist (ECS), or State Plant Health Director (SPHD) (to whom and when to send record copies is established by the ECS and SPHD; a rule-of-thumb is on a weekly basis gather and send forward copies of issued certificates)
Part 4—Issuing Office Copy (white)	1. ATTACH any pertinent information for that specific shipment <sup>1</sup>
	2. RECORD issuance on the Export Certification Record (see <i>Special Procedures</i> , <i>User Fees</i> on <b>page 6-15-1</b> ) <sup>1</sup>
	3. FILE at the issuing office

- 1 Such as copy of import permit copy, any translations, application with inspection results, acceptable inspection certificate, State phytosanitary certificate, treatment information, PPQ 576 Attachment (see *Attachment Sheets and Continuation Sheets for Export Certificates* on **page 5-1-7**). Attach to the Issuing Office copy an invoice or bill of lading that would substantiate the shipment's value in case of an audit.

## Maintenance

As with any accountable government form, certificates **must** be maintained following established policy and operational guidelines. This step includes guidelines established for the following offices:

- ◆ **Issuing Office**
- ◆ **Export Certification Specialist Office**

### Issuing Office

Issuing offices retain the Issuing Office Copy of PPQ Form 579 for 3 years. After 3 years, destroy these copies by incinerating or shredding.



**Important**

USDA-APHIS-PPQ Plant Inspection Stations and designated CITES ports retain the Issuing Office copies of PPQ Form 579 for 5 years for *protected plant material*. This is to maintain consistency with existing requirements to retain CITES/ESA documents and associated paperwork for 5 years.

Issuing office copies of PPQ Form 579 should be filed and maintained in numerical order by the certificate's accountability number along with the following, if applicable:


- ◆ Acceptable inspection certificate

- ◆ Attachment to the original (such as import permits, foreign phytosanitary certificates, and continuation sheets)
- ◆ Invoice or bill of lading that would substantiate the shipment's value in case of an audit
- ◆ Correspondence
- ◆ Inspection results
- ◆ PPQ Form 572, Application for Inspection and Certification of Domestic Plants and Plant Products for Export
- ◆ Translation of supporting documentation

### **Export Certification Specialist Office**

ECSs retain the Record Copy of PPQ Form 579 until the forms are reviewed. ECSs are responsible for reviewing certificates to detect errors. (Generally, these copies are **not** forwarded to USDA-APHIS-PPQ Export Services; however, ECSs may keep the forms for training purposes. See *Procedures, Preparation, Roles and Responsibilities*, [\*\*Review Guidelines for Certificates\*\*](#) on page 6-12-1.)

## Example of PPQ Form 579, Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport

No phytosanitary certificate can be issued until an application is completed (7 CFR 353)		See reverse for additional OMB information.		FORM APPROVED OMB NO. 0579-0052	
<b>UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE PLANT PROTECTION AND QUARANTINE</b>  <b>PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE FOR REEXPORT</b>		FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY			
		PLACE OF ISSUE	SAMPLE		
TO: THE PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATION(S) OF		NO.	FPC XXXXXXXX		-R
<b>CERTIFICATION</b>					
This is to certify that the plants or plant products described below were imported into the United States from (Country of origin) _____ covered by Phytosanitary Certificate _____ of which is attached to this certificate. That they are <input type="checkbox"/> packed <input type="checkbox"/> repacked <input type="checkbox"/> in original <input type="checkbox"/> original <input type="checkbox"/> certified true copy based on the <input type="checkbox"/> original Phytosanitary Certificate <input type="checkbox"/> and additional inspection, they are considered to conform with the current phytosanitary regulations of the importing country, and that during storage in the United States, the consignment has not been subjected to the risk of infestation or infection.					
<b>DISINFESTATION AND/OR DISINFECTION TREATMENT</b>					
1. DATE		2. TREATMENT			
3. CHEMICAL (active ingredient)		4. DURATION AND TEMPERATURE			
5. CONCENTRATION		6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION			
<b>DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSIGNMENT</b>					
7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE EXPORTER		8. DECLARED NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE CONSIGNEE			
SAMPLE		SAMPLE			
9. NAME OF PRODUCE AND QUANTITY DECLARED		10. BOTANICAL NAME OF PLANTS			
SAMPLE		SAMPLE			
11. NUMBER AND DESCRIPTION OF PACKAGES		12. DISTINGUISHING MARKS			
SAMPLE		SAMPLE			
13. PLACE OF ORIGIN		14. DECLARED MEANS OF CONVEYANCE			
		15. DECLARED POINT OF ENTRY			
<b>WARNING:</b> Any alteration, forgery, or unauthorized use of this phytosanitary certificate is subject to civil penalties of up to \$250,000 (7 U.S.C. Section 7734(b)) or punishable by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or imprisonment of not more than 5 years, or both (18 U.S.C. Section 1001).					
<b>ADDITIONAL DECLARATION</b>					
SAMPLE		SAMPLE			
16. DATE ISSUED		17. NAME OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER (Type or Print)		18. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER	
		SAMPLE			
No liability shall attach to the United States Department of Agriculture or to any officer or representative of the Department with respect to this certificate.					
PPQ FORM 579 FEB 2001 Previous editions are obsolete after 6/30/01 <div style="text-align: right;"><b>PART 1 - SHIPPER'S ORIGINAL</b></div>					

**FIGURE 5-4-1: Example of PPQ Form 579, Phytosanitary Certificate for Reexport (blank)**

